



U . S . S E N A T O R

Conrad Burns

## Helping Veterans in Montana

As a former Marine, I have always been focused on Montana's over 100,000 veterans. My accomplishments include:

- Funding nine new veterans clinics throughout the state
- Making Fort Harrison the best VA hospital in the Nation with expanded services and new Veterans Benefits Administration building
- Authoring legislation providing contracted mental health services
- Creating a new veterans cemetery in Missoula

## Concurrent receipt

My hard work helped enact a historic Concurrent Receipt benefit that will:

- Provide over \$22 billion to more than 250,000 disabled military retirees over the next ten years
- Authorize a disabled retiree to receive their disability and military retirement benefits at the same time
- Create the Native American Veteran Direct Loan program

## Ongoing Efforts for Montana Veterans

- Increasing the travel reimbursement rate for veterans from 11 cents to 40 cents with the Veterans Road to Health Care Act
- Establishing a new veterans clinic in both Cut Bank and Lewistown
- Enhancing the VA clinic in Billings
- Facilitating voting for service-members serving overseas with e-balloting initiatives
- Expanding eligibility for high demand vocational jobs under the G.I. Bill through the Veteran's Employment and Training Act

## Increased the Department of Veteran's Affairs Budget and Opposed Rate Hikes

- Secured over \$1.5 billion in additional emergency funding for the VA in 2005
- Authored legislation that provided an additional \$823 million to the VA budget in 2006
- Endorsed legislation that increased the VA budget for medical and prosthetic research by \$27 million
- Led the Senate fight to oppose increased VA fees and co-pays

